



General Assembly

February Session, 2006

Raised Bill No. 5658

LCO No. 2307

02307_____TRA

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Introduced by:
(TRA)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE REMOVAL OF ABANDONED SUNKEN VESSELS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 15-11a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) Any owner, agent or operator of any vessel, scow, lighter or
4 similar floating structure lying within the limits of any river or harbor
5 who causes or permits the same to be broken or altered to such an
6 extent that it will not keep afloat with ordinary care, or grounds such
7 craft or leaves any part thereof in any river or harbor, shall be fined not
8 more than five hundred dollars or imprisoned not more than six
9 months or both and the Commissioner of [Transportation]
10 Environmental Protection may cause such vessel, scow, lighter or
11 similar floating structure to be removed at the expense of such owner,
12 agent or operator and may recover the expense of such removal,
13 together with the costs and expenses incident to such removal,
14 including legal expenses and court costs incurred in such recovery,
15 from the owner, agent or operator of such vessel in an action founded
16 upon this section. After consultation with the Commissioner of

17 Transportation, the Commissioner of Environmental Protection may
18 consider any such sunken or grounded vessel, scow, lighter or similar
19 structure to be an encroachment subject to the provisions of sections
20 22a-359 to 22a-363, inclusive.

21 (b) The Commissioner of [Transportation] Environmental Protection
22 may require the owner, agent or operator to furnish a performance
23 bond in an amount sufficient to cover the estimated costs of removal as
24 determined by the commissioner.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	15-11a
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Statement of Purpose:

To increase the enforcement actions available to the Department of Environmental Protection with regard to abandoned sunken boats.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]